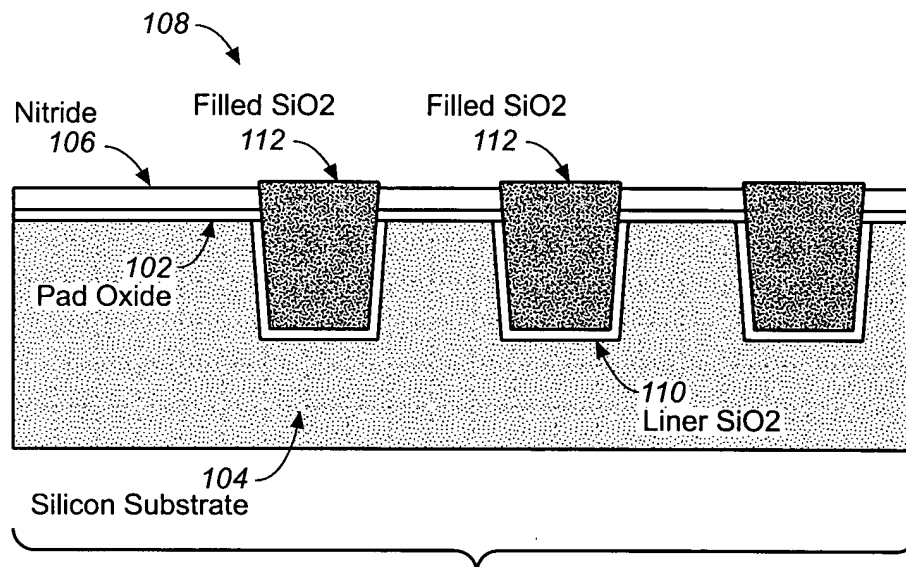
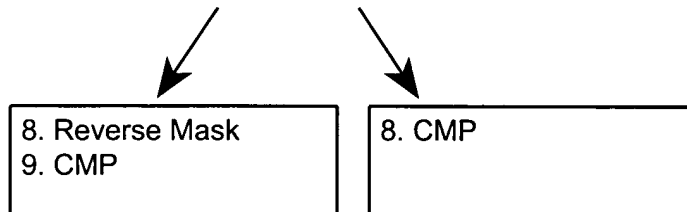


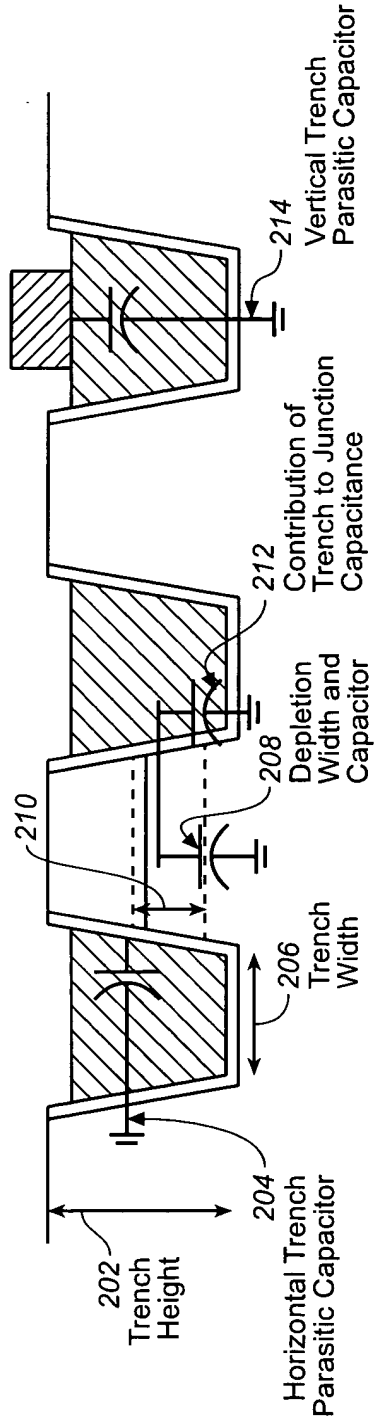


## Shallow Trench Isolation Process Flow

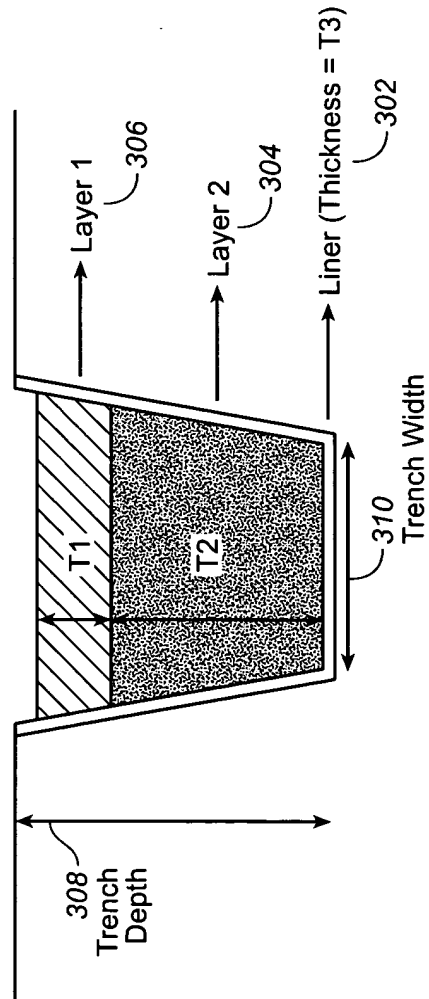
1. Pad Oxide
2. Nitride: Trench Etch Hard Mask and CMP Stop Layer
3. Island Mask
4. Trench Etch
5. Oxide Liner: Corner Rounding
6. Trench Fill
7. Densification (Can Be Skipped)



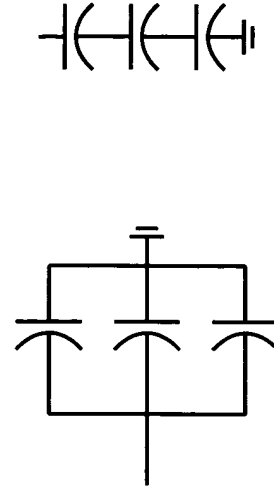
**FIG.\_1**  
(PRIOR ART)



**FIG. 2 (PRIOR ART)**



**FIG. 3a**



**FIG. 3b**

**FIG. 3c**